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INDONESIAN ELECTIONS

I. Based on latest available returns (UP, 18 Oct), the leaders in the Indonesian election rank as follows:

	Vote	Percent of Total Vote
National Party (PNI)	7,761,000	25.3
Masjumi	7,601,000	24.8
Nahdlatul Ulama (NU)	6,609,000	21.6
Communist Party (PKI)	6,016,000	19.6

A. Earlier return figures (UP, 14 Oct)

showed all other parties with a grand total of only 2,600,000 votes, or 8.5%.

Thus far, some 30,587,000 votes have been counted.

II. "Allocation" of parliamentary seats by districts is such that, despite PNI's narrow lead in the voting, the Masjumi majority in areas outside Java may win it a slightly greater number of seats than the PNI.

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Masjumi will get 43 seats, the PNI 41, NU 36, and Communists 34 (for a total of 194 out of 257 elected seats).

B. However, subsequent allocations, which permit "linking" of parties, could upset this slight Masjumi advantage.

II. Arrangements for elections in areas bypassed on 29 September are progressing.

A. Members of army and police force (totalling 250,000) voted 15 October.

B. Elections have been scheduled in East Atjeh (part of a dissident area in Sumatra) for late October and early November.

IV. Meanwhile, confusion over possible restaging of election in populous Central Java where PNI and Communists are charged with

25X1X8

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A. Central Election Committee has not

voiced an opinion on a re-run.

B. Masjumi fears the election law is not sufficiently specific and is pressing for an emergency law on subject of re-voting.

V. In the interim, both PNI and Masjumi apparently are trying to line up political allies.

A. Masjumi spokesman told US ambassador that discussions toward close co-operation among "Moslem parties" were actively underway."

1. "Moslem parties" would include Masjumi, NU, the minor PSII (Indonesian Islamic League) and probably any other small Moslem parties that managed to survive elections.

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- B. "Nationalist political parties" are also reportedly planning a merger, which may mean a PNI drive to build a coalition with small non-religious parties.

VI. Final composition of cabinet, however, will be influenced by several factors:

- A. Struggle for party leadership between right and left wings within PNI.

- B. Attitude of President Sukarno toward internal PNI struggle.

- 1. Should left wing, reportedly favored by Sukarno, win party leadership, co-operation with Masjumi would become much more difficult.

- C. Outcome of Moslem party discussions and possibility that Masjumi and NU may present united front.

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